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| APPLICATION NO.         | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.   | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 10/086,153              | 02/26/2002  | Ronald W. Reynolds   | REYN-25,923           | 2655             |
| 25883                   | 7590        | 08/31/2004           | EXAMINER              |                  |
| HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P |             |                      | JIMENEZ, MARC QUEMUEL |                  |
| P.O. BOX 741715         |             |                      |                       |                  |
| DALLAS, TX 75374-1715   |             |                      | ART UNIT              | PAPER NUMBER     |
|                         |             |                      | 3726                  |                  |

DATE MAILED: 08/31/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                                      |  |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/086,153 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>REYNOLDS, RONALD W. |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Marc Jimenez      | <b>Art Unit</b><br>3726                    |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-75 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20,22-48,60 and 62 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19,21,49-59,61 and 63-75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

KH

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, species II in the reply filed on 3/25/04 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 20, 22-48, 60, and 62 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  
  
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. **Claims 1-19 and 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.  
  
Claim 1 recites "said hollow body" in line 4 which lacks proper antecedent basis.  
  
Claim 6 recites "said weld ring" in line 1 which lacks proper antecedent basis.  
  
Claim 9 recites "said weld ring" in line 1 which lacks proper antecedent basis.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 1, 19, and 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Trzyna (3,693,544).

Trzyna teaches a low-mass roller, comprising: a cylindrical body **30,60** having an exterior surface, first and second open ends (see where the surface where the axle **24** contacts **30,60**) and defining an interior tubular space **50** along a longitudinal axis therethrough for receiving an axle therein **24**, the hollow body **30** formed of polymeric material (col. 3, lines 12-20); and an outer shell **12** formed of metal (col. 2, lines 39-40) proximately covering the exterior surface of and having a formed circular opening (in the vicinity of lead line **54**) surrounding each first and second ends of the cylindrical body **30,60**, wherein the cylindrical body **30**, the outer shell **12** and the circular openings are concentric with the longitudinal axis.

Regarding claim 19, the hollow cylindrical body **30** has a wall thickness substantially thicker than the metal of the outer shell **12**.

Regarding claim 21, the polymeric material **30** is electrically conductive.

7. **Claims 1-19, 21, 49-59, 61, and 63-75** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brugman (4,062,098).

Art Unit: 3726

Brugman teaches a low-mass roller, comprising: a cylindrical body 4 having an exterior surface, first and second open ends and defining an interior tubular space (see where the surface where the axle 3 contacts 4.) along a longitudinal axis therethrough for receiving an axle therein 3, the hollow body 4 formed of polymeric material (col. 4, lines 18-19); and an outer shell 1,5 formed of metal (col. 4, line 18) proximately covering the exterior surface of and having a formed circular opening (in the vicinity of lead line 5') surrounding each first and second ends of the cylindrical body 4, wherein the cylindrical body 4, the outer shell 1,5 and the circular openings are concentric with the longitudinal axis. The area where the cylindrical body 4 contacts the axle 3 is considered an "open end" which surrounds the axle 3. Similar to how the circular "opening" of the shell 1,5 "surrounds" each first and second ends of the cylindrical body 4.

Regarding claims 2, 10, and 14, note the first 1 and second 5 (note that there are two elements 5 for each end of the roll) thin-walled tubular shells having inside diameters, at first respective ends thereof, equal within a predetermined tolerance wherein the first respective ends are joined together and welded 15. The patentability of product does not depend on its method of production. *In re Thorpe*, 777 F.2d 695, 697, 227 USPQ 964, 966 (Fed. Cir. 1985) (citing *In re Pilkington*, 411 F.2d 1345, 1348, 162 USPQ 145, 147 (CCPA 1969)). If a product in a product-by-process claim is the same as or obvious from a product in the prior art, the claim is unpatentable even though the prior product is made by a different process. *Id.* citing *In re Marosi*, 710 F.2d 799, 803, 218 USPQ 289, 292-93 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *Johnson & Johnson v. W.L. Gore*, 436 F. Supp. 704, 726, 195 USPQ 487, 506 (D. Del. 1977); see also *In re Fessmann*, 489 F.2d 742, 744, 180 USPQ 324, 326 (CCPA 1974).

Art Unit: 3726

Regarding claims 3, 4, 51, 52, and 70-71, note the lips 5,5' and openings defined at the ends

Regarding claims 5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 49, 50, 55, 65, and 73-75 note the weld ring 6 having an outside diameter smaller than the inside diameters of each respective end of the first and second thin-walled tubular shells 1,5.

Regarding claims 6, 7, 9, 13, 17, 56, and 57, note the circular band and circumferential ring 6'',6,6' made of the same materials as the shells 1,5.

Regarding claims 18, 53, 58, 63, 64, and 72 note the crowned outline near the vicinity of lead line 2.

Regarding claims 19 and 59, the thickness of the hollow cylindrical body 4 is thicker than the outer shell 1,5.

Regarding claims 21 and 61, the polymeric material 4 is electrically conductive.

Regarding claims 65-66, note the support structure 4 with a bore for receiving 3 and the tubular shell 1,5 has a thickness the same from first to second ends.

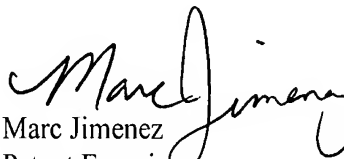
#### *Contact Information*

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc Jimenez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5965. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (703) 308-1789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3726

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Marc Jimenez  
Patent Examiner  
AU 3726

**MJ**

August 27, 2004